

COUNCIL POLICY

Recreational Vehicles Overnight Stays

Policy Number:	PO185		
Strategic Plan Objective:	1. Economically Prosperous Peninsula		
Policy Owner:	Director Corporate and Community Services	Record Number:	21/17072 V2
Responsible Officer:	Caravan Parks Coordinator	Minute Reference:	248/2022 (14/12/2022)
Date Adopted:	14/12/2022	Next Review Date:	December 2026

1. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Yorke Peninsula Council (Council) region receives an influx of Recreational Vehicle (RV) travellers during peak tourism periods. Council recognises the need to develop additional RV overnight stay facilities to accommodate these visitors.

This policy aims to:

- Provide an integral and coordinated approach to managing and providing services and facilities to meet the needs of the Recreational Vehicle (RV) traveller market for overnight stays.
- Ensure local businesses, in particular Caravan Parks, are not disadvantaged.
- Address existing unregistered RV overnight stay facilities by facilitating registration and approval by Council.

2. SCOPE

In accordance with the Yorke Peninsula Council Recreational Vehicles Strategy, this policy applies to all instances of RV overnight stays in the Council region and includes all applications to Council by individuals, businesses and community organisations to establish RV overnight stay facilities. Furthermore this policy addresses facilitating compliance of existing RV overnight stay facilities currently unregistered and unapproved by Council. Established RV overnight stay facilities, previously approved by Council, will not be affected.

3. DEFINITIONS

Recreational Vehicle	A motor vehicle or trailer which includes living quarters designed for accommodation.
Self-contained Recreational Vehicle	A vehicle specifically built for the purpose that along with built in sink, on-board cooking, toilet and sleeping facilities, carries a supply of fresh water and can retain all grey and black wastewater.
RV overnight stay facilities	A site dedicated to accommodate RVs providing access to, at a minimum, adequate toilet facilities and potable water supply.
Self-contained RV overnight stay facilities	A site dedicated to only accommodate self-contained RVs.
Camping	The act of using a site for accommodation to stay or sleep.
Caravan Park	A commercial, community or Council operated business that provides accommodation to the RV traveller market.
Memorandum of Agreement	A binding contract utilised at the discretion of the Council to set out the terms of an arrangement between Council and a third party, for the operation and maintenance of RV overnight stay facilities.
Competitive Neutrality	Principles designed to neutralise any net competitive advantage that a government or local government agency engaged in significant business activities would otherwise have, by virtue of its control by the government or local government, over private business operating in the same market.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Council encourages development of RV overnight stay facilities to deter RV travellers from camping in areas where camping is not permitted and to provide a safe overnight stay environment. Additionally, this will encourage RV travellers to visit the Council region and increase expenditure in local businesses to strengthen the local economy.

Permission for new or expanded RV overnight stay facilities, on a permanent or temporary basis, must be sought from Council and approval must be granted prior to the commencement of any works or promotional activities. Council will consider all applications in accordance with applicable legislation and in consultation with the wishes of the community as set out in the Yorke Peninsula Council Recreational Vehicles Strategy.

The following conditions apply to all new RV overnight stay facilities:

- Only vehicles classified as RV or self-contained RV are allowed. Tents, swags and similar camping equipment are not permitted.
- Compliance with legislation and planning regulations.
- The land identified for use is suitable in accordance with Council's Community Land Management Plans.
- Endorsement from established neighbouring Caravan Parks.
- Community support.
- Priority for management of sites to be given to commercial or community groups and a Memorandum of Agreement to be entered into with Council.
- Determine a minimum donation amount that would not disadvantage established neighbouring Caravan Parks in keeping with the principles of competitive neutrality.
- Adequate provisions must be made for in the event that overnight stay facility permits RVs that are not self-contained. Potable water and toilets are required
- Signage displayed to communicate conditions of stay (e.g. maximum stay periods, revisitation rules, donation amounts, only self-contained RV's permitted).
- RV overnight stay facilities will be subject to regular monitoring by Council for compliance.

Full year operation

To avoid competition with established Caravan Parks in non-peak tourism periods, Council's approval of RV overnight stay facilities applying for full year operation is subject to the following conditions:

- Must be a minimum 10km radius from an established Caravan Park, unless otherwise approved by the Caravan Park.
- Maximum five (5) night consecutive stay for non-peak tourism periods. RV travellers are not permitted to stay at the same RV overnight stay facility again until a period of two (2) consecutive weeks has expired.
- Managers of the RV overnight stay facilities are to implement a registration system for RV travellers staying at the site and regularly monitor the site to ensure RV travellers adhere to maximum stay periods and revisitation rules.

Peak tourism period provisions

Council may approve RV overnight stay facilities to operate within a 10km radius of established Caravan Parks exclusively during peak tourism periods when these businesses are at full capacity.

Conditions applicable to operation exclusively during peak tourism periods include:

- Approval must be obtained from Council each time the RV overnight stay facilities are made available.
- Prior approval in writing from established neighbouring Caravan Parks must be obtained by the proponent and provided to Council each time the RV overnight stay facilities are made available.

New or expanding Caravan Parks

Council's Business Enhancement Program provides financial and non-financial support to local businesses and is available to commercial or community groups seeking to establish or expand a Caravan Park or create low cost services for RV travellers.

Compliance of unregistered RV overnight stay facilities

RV overnight stay facilities must comply with the Local Government Act 1999, the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 and relevant Council by-laws.

Unregistered RV overnight stay facilities operating without approval from Council and are not permitted as the sites are unregulated and not monitored by Council for compliance.

The community is encouraged to report to Council any unregistered RV overnight stay facilities.

5. COMPLAINTS

Complaints relating to RV overnight stays facilities can be made in writing to Council's Director Corporate and Community Services. All complaints will be managed in accordance with Council's PO147 Complaints Policy.

6. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every four (4) years and as necessary in consideration of any changes to legislation and relevant standards, codes and guidelines.

7. TRAINING

Council is committed to supporting employees in complying with this policy. Training needs will be identified during induction and reviewed annually, during individual performance reviews and as necessary in consideration of any changes to legislation and relevant standards, codes and guidelines.

8. RECORDS

Records shall be maintained as required by Council's PO063 Records Management Policy and relevant legislation.

9. RELATED COUNCIL POLICIES/PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

PO184 Business Grants Policy

PO157 Camping on Council Land Policy

PO147 Complaints Policy

Yorke Peninsula Council Recreational Vehicles Strategy

Strategic Management Plan

Community Land Management Plans

10. REFERENCES AND LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1999

Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016

Council By-Laws

Competitive Neutrality Policy Statement 2002

Crown Lands Management Act 2009

11. COUNCIL DELEGATION

Details of Delegation:	Chief Executive Officer
Delegate:	Director Corporate and Community Services

12. VERSION HISTORY

Version No	Issue Date	Description of Change
1	14/12/2022	New Policy